



MEDIA RELEASE

Tucson Fire Department

Fire Chief Dan Newburn



Contact: Captain Trish Tracy

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Assign a Designated Child-Watcher

Adult supervision is the only way to ensure that your children enjoy a fun and safe summer pool season. However many times adult supervision is interrupted by simple distractions such as phone calls, food cooking on the grill or the needs of other children. When miscommunications occur between parents or adults about who is watching the children, accidents can happen. One way to prevent this from happening is to assign a Designated Child-Watcher.

The Designated Child-Watcher is responsible for providing uninterrupted adult supervision whenever children are near water. The responsible adult holds onto the Designated Child Watcher lifeguard whistle. This serves as a concrete reminder to all of the adults present that an adult is watching the children. If that person needs a break or must attend to another activity, they hand over the whistle to another adult who then watches the children. This prevents a lapse in supervision.

Drowning is 100% preventable and it is our responsibility to watch our children. It is important for parents to remember that no matter how safe they think their pool is, or how well prepared for the water their children are, nothing can take the place of adult supervision.

So far this year we have had two near-drownings and one actual drowning in the Tucson area.

Designated Child-Watcher Whistles are available through the Tucson Fire Department Community Safety Division. To obtain a whistle for your pool call: 791-5515 or contact Captain Trish Tracy at the number listed above.

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